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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir, there are some special subjects like domestic science, dancing—of course, even boys may take to dancing—and home science. These are the special subjects for girls."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Government kindly consider the introduction of ' Nursing ' as a special subject in the girls' schools to aid or improve mother craft and perhaps relieve also the lack of nurses in rural areas?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, for giving training in nursing, hospitals would be necessary. We cannot attach a hospital to a secondary school for the purpose of giving training in nursing."

SRI G. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" Is it not better to leave the girls to learn nursing at home under their natural mother-nurse, their mother, instead of bringing them under the artificial mother-nurse, the mistress or the headmistress of the school? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Member seems to be an expert in that. I take his suggestion."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Should not the rudimentary principles of nursing be arranged to be taught in secondary schools for girls, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There could not be a regular course of nursing in the secondary-schools. Under ' Home Science ' certain subjects relating to nursing are taught."

Preparation of text-books for the new elementary education.

* 55 *Q.*—SRI T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state who is in charge of the preparation of the books for the new elementary education?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The approved text-books adopted by the schools before the introduction of the Modified Scheme have been allowed to continue for the present. The practice hitherto followed in regard to the preparation of approved text-books for Elementary schools is merely to prescribe the syllabus in the various subjects and to leave the work of bringing out text-books, to private publishers. The question of revising this practice is under consideration."

2-50 p.m. DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I take it, Sir, that the modified scheme of elementary education is dropped? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Not yet, Sir."

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Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, how long will it take the Government to decide? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Member will exercise some patience."

Sri T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR :—" Sir, will the Government be pleased to publish all these text-books and supply them free to the students in the rural areas in view of the fact that the introduction of elementary education is to proceed at a very rapid pace? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The question of publication of the text-books by the Government is under consideration. The question of free distribution is a matter involving finance, and I cannot give an answer to that straightway."

Sri V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்தப் பாடப் புத்தகங்களில் வரலாற்றுக்கு விரோதமான பொருள்களும், சில ஆட்சேபகரமான குறிப்புகளும் காணப்படுகின்றன. பாட புத்தகக் குழுவினரின் பிரியத்திற்கேற்றவாறு பாடப் புத்தகங்கள் தயாரிக்கவேண்டியிருப்பதனால், இந்த மாதிரி காரியங்களில் எச்சரிக்கையாயிருந்து தடுப்பததற்கு சரியான அனுபவமுள்ள கமிட்டியாரை நியமிப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் யோசிப்பார்களா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are contemplating the question of publication of text-books by Government. When we take up this question, certainly proper text-books will be selected and published."

Sri V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—" Sir, I should like to know whether there is any idea of abandoning the modified scheme of elementary education. There are rumours afloat and we every day read something or other about it. We should like to know from an authoritative source whether there is any definite idea of dropping the scheme."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" An authoritative pronouncement will be made very soon, Sir."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is the proposal to publish text-books by the State agency applicable to elementary schools or to secondary schools also? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" For the present it is applicable only to elementary schools."

Rise in the price of tamarind.

* 56 *Q.*—Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the price of tamarind has risen considerably; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken to keep down the price of the same?